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aspiration /as·pi·ra·tion/ (as"pī-ra'shun)

1. the drawing of a foreign substance, such as the gastric contents, into the respiratory tract during inhalation.
2. removal by suction, as the removal of fluid or gas from a body cavity or the procurement of biopsy specimens.

meconium aspiration aspiration of meconium by the fetus or newborn, which may result in atelectasis, emphysema, pneumothorax, or pneumonia.

microsurgical epididymal sperm aspiration (MESA) retrieval of sperm from the epididymis using microsurgical techniques, done in men with obstructive azoospermia.

vacuum aspiration removal of the uterine contents by application of a vacuum through a hollow curet or a cannula introduced into the uterus.

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as·pi·ra·tion (ās'pə-rā'shən)

n.

1. The removal of a gas or fluid by suction.
2. The sucking of fluid or a foreign body into the airway when drawing breath.
3. A surgical technique used in the treatment of cataracts of the eye, in which an incision is made into the cornea, the lens capsule is severed, and the material of the lens is fragmented and aspirated by a needle.

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When solids or liquids that should be swallowed into the stomach are instead breathed into the respiratory system, or when substances from the outside environment are accidentally breathed into the lungs.

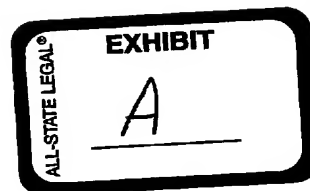
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